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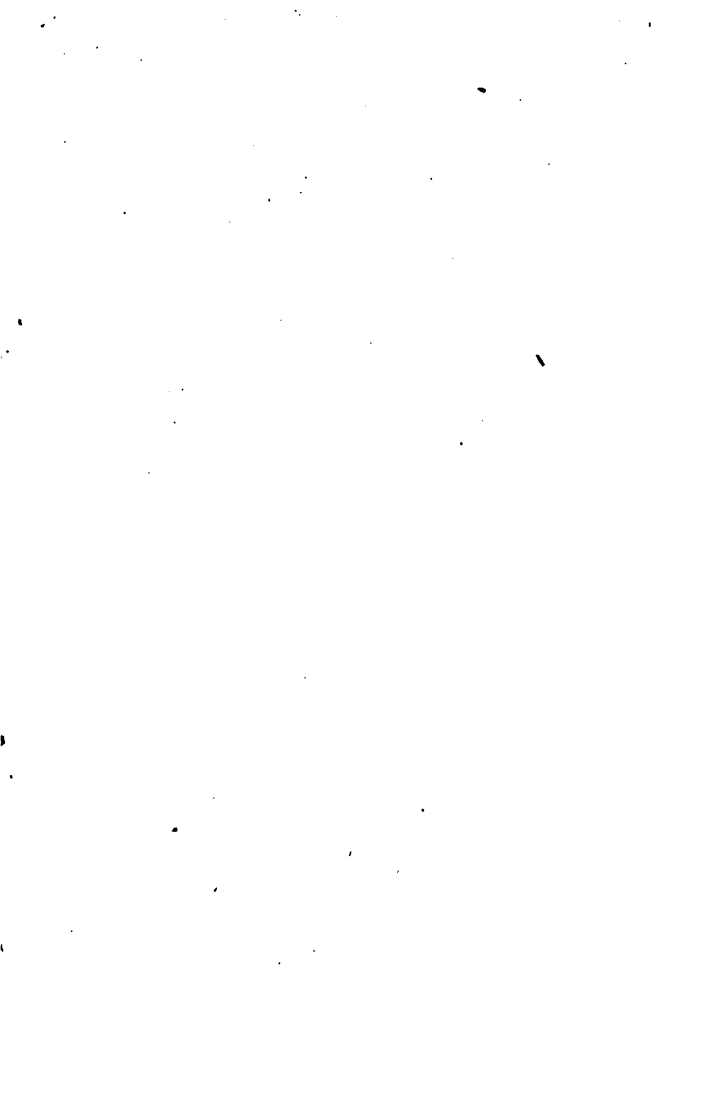
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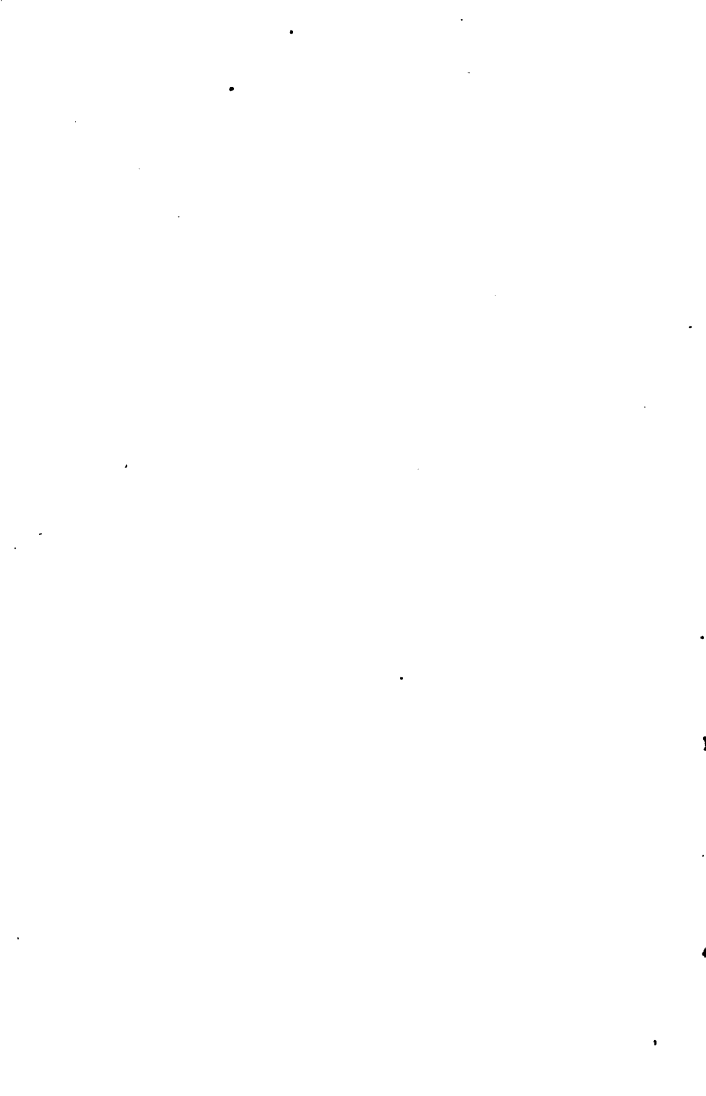


*The Gift of
Pliny Earl Chase,
of
Philadelphia
(Class of 1839).*

Rec. 17







EXTRACTS
FROM
THE PAPERS
OF
EDWIN PRICE,

LATE OF
NEATH ABBEY, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

WITH
Some Account of his last Illness and Death.

By Mrs. Anne Price

C PHILADELPHIA:
FOR SALE AT FRIENDS' BOOK STORE,
No. 304 ARCH STREET.
1859.

Dr 11025.960, June 15

Gift of
B. J. ...

...

(1839.)

C. SHERMAN & SON, PRINTERS,
S. W. Corner of Seventh and Cherry Sts., Philadelphia.

INTRODUCTION.

BEING desirous that my near friends and relations should be gratified in the wish, expressed by many of them, to possess a copy of the little journal kept by his sisters, of the illness and death of my dear son, EDWIN, we are induced to have a few copies printed for their use;* particularly for those who so nearly participated with us in the close trial, and by every tender attention sought to soften the affliction to his family; five of whom, with another dear friend, were his imme-

* The first edition was printed solely for gratuitous distribution, as here described; but it being thought desirable for the account to have a wider circulation, leave was obtained to print an edition for sale.

diate attendants, and witnesses of his sufferings, and of the consolation which, through unmerited mercy, was vouchsafed at that awful season. Thankful shall I feel, if the dying testimony of this interesting and upright-hearted young man, may prove a stimulus to us who remain, to stand ready for the same awful summons, whether in a protracted or more sudden manner.

When a child, he manifested much religious thoughtfulness, and a strong conviction of the unlimited goodness and power of the Almighty, the sense of which, I trust, was never so effaced as to permit him to think or speak lightly of the Christian Religion, and the instructions afforded to us in the Holy Scriptures; although, from the liveliness of his disposition, and a high spirit, he was, at one time, in considerable danger of departing from the simplicity and plainness of that religious profession in which he had been educated.

In the year 1816, he attended the Yearly Meeting in London, with which he was much interested, and expressed his design never to omit attending future solemnities of this sort if in his power.

Of the awful circumstances which occurred to him soon after his return from this journey, and the gradual progress of religious care to walk acceptably in the Divine sight, we find some account in a diary, which he was induced to keep as an incitement to more watchfulness over his thoughts and actions; from which many of the following remarks are extracted.

It was commenced in the 7th month, 1816, soon after his recovery from the effects of an injury he received, by an explosion of fire-damp in a Colliery, whilst attending to a part of his business there; and by which he narrowly escaped

instant death. The danger to which he had been exposed, and the preservation of his life under circumstances so perilous, awakened in his breast devout gratitude to the Great Author of all our mercies, and induced increased solicitude, that, in his future progress, he might give the more earnest heed to the right regulation of his heart and conduct, and so learn to number his days that he might apply his heart unto wisdom.

ANNA PRICE.

NEATH ABBEY, 3d month, 1819.

EXTRACTS, ETC.

25th of 7th month, 1816. Rose and read a chapter in my Bible, as usual. Felt pleased and affected with the picture of Abraham's willingness to offer up his only darling son a sacrifice to his God: What a pattern of obedience to the Almighty does his whole life exhibit!

26th. I now go under ground at the Colliery, for the first time since the accident that occurred to me there on the 12th of 6th month, two days after my return from the Yearly Meeting. Every time I go down, I think reflection on the great uncertainty of time is brought more completely home to me; although I feel

nothing like fear. I firmly believe, that whilst I am engaged in paying attention to necessary business, if I exercise prudence and care, no accident will befall me; at least none but such as are designed by a merciful God, to bring about some good effect; and if such should be permitted to occur, I trust He will enable me to bear them with resignation and fortitude. On my return from the Colliery, I could but feel thankful to the great Dispenser of all good, for having once more permitted me to see the face of the sun.

On a retrospect of this day, I feel comfortable, having been preserved in a degree of watchfulness. [He remarks, on reading the Testament]: The more I read this book, the more does it appear to contain; scarcely a paragraph, but some instruction may be derived from it; and great comfort and consolation to the mind which is sincerely desirous of being benefited.

29th. [Speaking of a painful occurrence, he says]: I endeavor, under this as any other trial, to look up for support to the One Eternal Being, who is both able and willing to render it to all who, with sincerity and humility, make application to Him; but the last of these is a virtue, which of all others, I think, I find the greatest difficulty in attaining; yet there is scarcely any which I more sincerely desire: but it is very difficult for the proud man to bend, although assured that without it no entrance will be found into those regions of bliss, “where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest.” How much more apt are we to repine at any little adverse circumstance, and dwell on that, as an undeserved punishment, than we are to rejoice and feel thankful for all the benefits we enjoy, compared to what is the lot of thousands of our fellow-creatures!

8th month, 1st. At a meeting to-day

I endeavored to fix my mind, as much as possible, on the importance of attending to my religious duties ; and when I consider the objects for which I am called into existence, and how little time I employ in seeking to carry them into effect, I cannot help feeling struck with a sense of my own deficiencies. Only a few hours in a week publicly set apart for the purpose of worshipping the Almighty—and to think that even this little time should not be properly employed, is really grievous !

On the 9th, he speaks of meeting with an acquaintance, who, in the course of conversation, swore a great deal, as he was apt, inconsiderately, frequently to do. On this, Edwin remarks : “ I was shocked at the time, but did not reprove him, or make any remark ; for which I feel sorry : I believe it is a duty we owe to others, to endeavor to draw them out of their vicious propensities.” ‘

Early in the year 1817, he removed to London, with a view of establishing himself in business. There he was first affected by the disease which afterwards proved fatal. He remarks, on the 7th of the 4th month, "I was rather alarmed, as I was going from 'Change, by a violent fit of coughing, which brought up blood, a circumstance which never before occurred to me. Such a symptom serves afresh to bring to my recollection the uncertainty of time. This very thing may be the cause of my death : oh ! that I may be prepared !"

In the course of the 5th month, whilst still an invalid in London, he wrote the following letter to one of his brothers in the country :—

"MY DEAR ———,

"I sit me down without knowing in particular what I have to say, though with a sort of general impression that I have a good deal. I hope I am never very de-

ficient in love towards any of you ; but to-day, I think I have felt it abound more than usual. I wish I could impart in writing what I sometimes feel ; but that seems impossible ; nor could I perhaps do it better, if we were engaged face to face : it is what I believe can seldom be more than felt, and that only at times, and those too not altogether at our command, though I am persuaded they are much more within our reach than we may at all times be aware of. It is for want of cultivating an inclination in our own minds towards the Source of all good, that we do not more frequently and more strongly feel that love towards our fellow-creatures, which is a foretaste of the reward of righteousness.

“ To be able to feel this love, which springs from a source so pure, is incomparably delightful : felt but in a slight degree, it exceeds all that the most glittering prospects of the world can afford.

Under its influence, I sometimes think I could retire contentedly from the troubles and gratifications of the world, well satisfied with enough to provide me simply with food and raiment. For when I consider the end and object of our existence, and the best means of obtaining this, I do think that a very little with contentment, is better than abundance of riches and the temptations which are their accompaniments : and I have been led to see and feel, that it will be better for me to retire into the country quietly. I am confident it will be better for me eventually ; more for my eternal interest and welfare ; and this, my dear —— is before all temporals ; for what can a man give in exchange for his soul ? This is indeed what we ought most to value ; but our natures are striving in an opposite direction ; and nothing but Divine grace will enable us effectually to counteract their operation. For this, then, let us endeavor to pray ; if we do it in faith, with sincerity and humility, I

feel persuaded it will not be denied to us. Oh! how I wish thou couldst be here sometimes, to participate in the refreshment which the mind really derives from the opportunities which this annual feast affords! I esteem it a particular favor to be a partaker, and should enjoy it much more, I think, did all those about whom I feel the warmest interest share with me."

Soon after this, he was seized with inflammation of the lungs, which rendered bleeding, and much reduction of the system, necessary. As soon as he recovered a little from this attack, he was carefully conveyed home, where he remained under parental care, till towards the fall of the year, when being advised to winter in a more southern climate, he proceeded with that view, to Falmouth, intending to embark from thence.

A few extracts from letters written to

a young friend, during this period, prove how much his mind was occupied with the contemplation of subjects of the first importance; one, in particular, will show with what sentiments he even then looked towards the probable termination of his disorder. It was written at a time when the state of his health rendered it necessary for him to absent himself, for a few days, from his father's house, where a large circle of friends and relations were assembled.

“OYSTERMOUTH, 11th of 8th mo. 1817.

“Thou wilt see, by the date of this, that I am obliged to separate myself from all those dear relations now at our house, from whose society, did my health admit, I should derive so much pleasure. The privation, thou mayest imagine, is no small trial to me; but to remain with them, would be the height of injustice to myself: my, general bodily strength is much improved, but my lungs are still

too delicate to bear the exertion of talking ; and though I feel it my duty to do what appears best, in order to recover, I cannot say I am at all sanguine that that effect will be ultimately produced. Indeed I feel almost certain that this attack will terminate my trials here ; and unless I can feel assured that, in re-entering on the busy world, I should be prevented from giving way to its various allurements and temptations, I sincerely hope that it may ; trusting, as I sometimes humbly do, that before it pleases the Almighty to take me, I may be prepared to go, and feel assurance of acceptance with him in everlasting peace : a reward far beyond my merits, and more to be desired than anything this world can afford. I feel exceedingly desirous that we may none of us neglect the means of obtaining it, whilst it is in our power ; for we know not the day or hour when we may be deprived of the opportunity for amendment. A death-bed re-

penance is too precarious a thing to be trusted!

“My mind has often been turned latterly to the first commandment, on love to God; and it would be ungrateful in the extreme if we did not love him; but is it not left too much to profession? Do we love him with all our hearts? Oh, no! only examine; if we did thoroughly, no earthly woes could trouble us so much as they do; that feeling would so humble us, that the storms of life would blow over our heads, and at the same time it would so exalt us, as to carry us above all that this dark abode can furnish to molest us. May this, then, be our principal aim! Let us endeavor to keep our minds steadfastly turned heavenward; seek first that kingdom, and all things necessary will be added! This will support us in the fulfilment of our outward duties; and will alike contribute to our

happiness, whether in prosperity or in adversity."

In another letter he observes : " I feel my own weakness ; I know nothing can be done without humility ; and for ability to subdue my own proud heart, I endeavor to pray. This, I trust, will be granted ; indeed I feel confident that where there is an earnest desire after good, the door will not be shut ; but continual watchfulness is very necessary, and with it all, how difficult to avoid the multitude of snares set for us on every side !"

25th of 10th month. I propose taking my voyage to Naples—the prospect appears on a near approach more formidable. I desire that I may be enabled throughout to support the character which approaches nearest to that of our great Example ; but I feel that I shall have many temptations to deviate. I must walk humbly, and keep a close watch.

11th month, 1st. I have given way too much to my natural volatility, under the influence of which I am induced sometimes to say things, both of myself and my friends, which, if the dictates of Christianity were closely followed, would not be said.

8th. I this morning at breakfast expressed, that I should feel most easy to relinquish the voyage to the Mediterranean, myself and friends having become uneasy at the prospect.

Here it may be remarked, that he had engaged his passage on board a vessel bound for Bordeaux, and was actually in readiness to go on board for that purpose, sleeping at Falmouth; when the wind becoming fair by daybreak one morning, the vessel sailed without him, the Captain having neglected to send him notice. He pleasantly remarked to his friends, that

he trusted it was all for the best ; and so indeed it afterwards proved, for this very vessel was overtaken in a storm but a few days after, and foundered at sea. Thus he was again preserved from harm ; spared a little longer to his anxiously interested friends, for purposes, no doubt, wisely ordered by an Almighty Providence.

12th month, 7th. After noting some occurrences, the books he read, and the kindness of his friends, for which he expresses the warmest gratitude, he proceeds : " I propose setting off for Plymouth, to avail myself of an opportunity for a passage to Bordeaux, on board a London vessel bound for that port, having passengers on board ; but all things are so uncertain here, that I hardly dare calculate on going by her. No less than five times have I been disappointed in leaving this port by different vessels ; however, through it all, I do not feel

much disconcerted, which is a comfort.
‘In your patience possess ye your soul.’ ”

On the 20th, he actually sailed in a brig bound for Charente ; but a hard gale drove the vessel into Penzance for shelter. He went on shore, and came to Falmouth, where he met his brother, who had crossed from Ireland for the purpose of seeing him ; and on the 25th he received a note from the captain of the brig, informing him that a fair wind had induced him to sail without delay. Thus he was again disappointed of his intended voyage ; and again he referred the disappointment to the hand of that Providence which guides our course unseen, and, too often, unacknowledged.

Between this time and the 10th of the following month, he joined his brother and sister in a tour round the western coast of Cornwall. He soon after returned home, intending to pay what atten-

tion he could to business, having given up, for the present, all intention of going to the Continent ; his health, though still precarious, not appearing to require a milder climate.

2d month, 3d. Alluding to a promising opportunity of engaging in business, which required caution, he says: " My happiness certainly does not depend on abundance ; and I hope I shall be preserved in contentment with a little, relying for comfort on an increase of grace. Oh ! that I could always feel resigned, and aim at acting constantly in conformity with the Divine will ! "

" 5th. (Fifth day.) As usual, attended meeting, which I desire constantly to do, even though I may not be favored to feel much refreshment therefrom. It is a Christian duty that ought not to be neglected : and when there is a deficiency in this respect, I believe it will be found

too frequently to originate in want of love to the cause of religion ; although other excuses may be alleged."

After lamenting his own small progress in matters of the first importance, he adds : " I desire, more than riches and all worldly honors, to increase in that knowledge which is from above."

His health appearing rather to amend, he engaged a little in business, and on one occasion exposed himself unwisely ; the effects of which he felt, and says—

" 4th month, 17th. It compels me to lie by. About a week ago I again coughed up blood.

" It is evident I must pursue a different plan, and be content to lead a less bustling life, which will doubtless be best for my spiritual welfare. I propose this week going to Ilfracombe to try change

of air." There he staid some weeks with one of his sisters ; when the weather permitted, taking excursions on the water for the benefit of his health. On one of those occasions they visited the Island of Lundy, where he mentions being most kindly welcomed and entertained by the principal person who inhabits the island. Circumstances induced them to embrace the offer of lodging for the night : he says : " Being to rise at three o'clock in the morning, to return with the flowing tide, we went to bed early, not a little fatigued with the exertions of the day ; walking, and talking after our arrival, brought on a return of my old complaint, which took off considerably from the pleasure I should otherwise have felt."

" 5th month, 10th. Spit a little more blood this morning : another warning to me : they are all, no doubt, intended in mercy to my poor soul."

The following day they returned to Wales, and after a few days, symptoms of inflammation of the lungs appearing, he was bled copiously, and again the next day ; so that he was necessarily confined much to his bed. On this occasion he wrote the following to his mother, who was in London, attending the Yearly Meeting, after saying that he made the attempt at his father's request, to relieve her from that anxiety, to which, as a tender and affectionate parent, she had been subjected : " Weak I am of course, and weak I must expect to be ; and I have taken up the pen thus early before the surgeon comes, because it is probable he will think it right still further to incapacitate me. He thinks we shall soon get the upper hand of the disorder ; whether we do or not, ought not to be cause for anxiety. I consider that life and death are at the disposal of the Almighty ; and whilst I can feel a passive submission to his will, I cannot feel anxious as

to the result. I am desirous, if it should please him to take me from this scene, that my heart may be better prepared for the change than it now is ; and this I feel pretty confident would be granted. If I at any time form the subject of thy prayers, may it be for this, rather than for that !”

6th month, 8th. I am now apparently getting better ; but what the end may be, the Lord only knows : it is for me to wait patiently the result. I have hitherto been favored to feel much calmness, and even thankfulness for this dispensation. It affords me a delightful opportunity for retirement and improvement. That the whole may ultimately tend to the glory of a merciful God, is often the earnest desire of my heart !

I have perused many works since my last attack, some with profit to my understanding ; but less than could be wished to the heart.

Our Yearly Meeting party are returned, and give a very satisfactory account of the Meetings, which it is gratifying to hear, and that the glorious cause of truth, as professed by Friends, seems to strengthen instead of decay ; of which I have often felt fearful : riches are creeping in so amongst us, and with them corroding luxury and its attendants. May our individual and collective cry to the Almighty constantly be for more humility.

[Being again advised to have recourse to sailing, he once more embarked.]

7th month 1st. Flushing.—Arrived here after a long and perilous voyage round the Land's-end from Swansea ; having encountered a heavy storm, which lasted fifteen hours. I was favored to feel very calm, confiding, I hope, in the goodness of the Almighty for support, and relying on his mercy through our

Saviour, in case it should have pleased him to suffer the deep to swallow us up : it was an awful time, and our preservation demands our gratitude.

A few weeks since, my friends thought it right to call in medical assistance for my poor body again ; in consequence of which I was bled, cupped, blistered, &c., so that I am reduced lower than I ever remember. Voyaging being recommended, I have again begun to roam about the world in search of health ; what the result may be is wisely hid from me ; but I know that I am in the hands of a just and merciful God, and I think I feel quite resigned to go or stay, as he may ordain. This earth never appeared so beautiful ; and I think I never felt more happy in it, than I am at times now favored to feel : but there is something wanting, which nothing but a closer union with God can give : for this, either here, or hereafter, I fervently long ; but patiently to wait is my duty.

7th month, 12th. On board the Dash yacht, off Falmouth. First-day. "Surely goodness and mercy have followed me all the days of my life." "What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits?"

This day I have been favored to experience much calmness and peace. In the afternoon my two dear friends, — and —, who are on a religious visit to these parts, kindly came out to pay me a visit; and we had indeed a highly favored season. They were led to hand me the cup of comfort and consolation, in a very tender and affectionate manner: my heart feels near unity with them in their labor of love, and I secretly pray that the Lord will bless their undertaking in promoting his own glory, and reward them with peace. Awful is the work of the Ministry! true Ministry!

13th. This morning my dear uncle, R. W. Fox, kindly came off, though the

weather was rough, to see me ; affectionately solicitous to do anything he can to promote my comfort. I cannot express the gratitude I feel to all my endeared relations and friends, for their continued and increased kindness ; and above all to the Almighty, not only for his temporal gifts, which are superabundant, but far more, for the influence of his Holy Spirit in my heart, which has latterly been mercifully granted, to reduce and soften it. The Lord is omniscient ; he knows the inmost thoughts of the heart, and will thence accept, without words, what words cannot express.

26th. Glynvelin Cottage, near Neath. For the last few days my lassitude and increase of debility have been so great, that it has been an exertion to me simply to read my Bible : to-day I feel a little revived.

We sailed from Falmouth, on sixth day

the 17th, in a brig bound round land for Swansea, after having made an effort first to go across land to Portreath, and which we were dissuaded from accomplishing. This circumstance, however, afforded me an opportunity, which I should not otherwise have had, of spending a very pleasant and instructive day in the society of those I love: all things work together for good to those that love God; and truly I do feel that he is the most attractive object of my affections. How delightful to feel that one is the subject of such a Protector's care; and for those that sincerely love him, he *will care*: this gives me peace and confidence, whether I live or die.

Our voyage was on the whole pleasant: there is something pleasing in returning home after a journey, be that journey agreeable or difficult; but peculiarly so if that home be a happy one. May I, during the remainder of my journey through life, so walk as to be able to look

forward to the other state as going home : going to a home most delightful—to a Father most paternal, in whose presence there is fulness of joy.

Ever since my return I have been troubled with a pain in my right side ; in consequence I have been subjected again to the reducing system ; nevertheless I doubt not all will be well. I can truly say I glory in my weakness ; the less there is of the body, the more, I trust, there will be of the spirit, until it is wholly unshackled.

[Another short voyage being recommended, he crossed the channel to Ireland, accompanied by one of his sisters ; and returned to Swansea, in time for the Half-yearly Meeting held there in the 8th month, which he did not attend, but writes as follows] :—

Our Half-yearly Meeting was nume-

rously attended; the majority was Friends of the younger class. I am willing to believe that generally those that come, attend from motives of interest in our Society, and a desire to be benefited; but I very much wish that more decided attention was paid, to prevent the outward appearance of gaiety and festivity, which, I am sure, must strike the observing world on such occasions. It is calculated to, and I am persuaded does draw down censure on our Society, and causes, in some instances, even our religious profession to be calumniated. If a small personal sacrifice will effect it, we ought to avoid giving offence.*

A few days after our arrival, we received an account of the death of our dear friend —, after an illness of a few days only. She departed peacefully,

* This observation is worthy the attention of young and old, whether applicable on that occasion or not.

under a feeling of universal love to her fellow-creatures. So sudden a removal of one whose society I recently enjoyed in the possession of perfect health, I feel to be another loud call to us, who are left a little longer, to awaken from our lethargy, and stand prepared for a similar awful summons.

[The following is a copy of a letter to the mother of this young woman]:—

8th month 22d, 1818.

MY DEAR FRIEND,—

Unqualified as I feel to offer anything that can afford consolation to thyself and your dear family, under the deeply afflictive dispensation with which it has pleased the Almighty again to visit you, I should not do my own feelings justice, were I not to endeavor to express, though feebly, somewhat of the near sympathy into which I have been introduced, by the account which this morning's post brought from my brother.

Mysterious indeed are the ways of Providence ! yet, confiding in his goodness and mercy, I have no doubt but that even these trials, which we find the most difficult to bear, are designed for our purification and ultimate benefit. We know that our passage through time is covered with snares and encompassed by difficulties, and the great object of our existence is a preparation for eternity ; if therefore our dearest friends be called hence, to enjoy the presence of our heavenly Father, although our loss must at first cause a pang to the natural feelings, we surely ought to rejoice at their unspeakable gain. That this would be the lot of our dear departed friend, if she should be taken, I believed from the first day of her fatal attack ; and the renewed assurance that her spirit is enjoying communion with the blessed, now affords me cause of great thankfulness. Little did we think when, only nine or ten days ago, participating in her company the pleasure

of social and affectionate intercourse, and receiving from herself all those kind attentions which she was foremost to bestow, that so soon we were to suffer a final separation : how striking an evidence that "the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong !" How awful and imperious a call to us who are left, to stand prepared for the like visitation ! My heart's desire for the whole of your circle, each individual of which claims a warm interest in my breast, is, that you may be preserved in resignation and fortitude under the afflictive stroke, and that this and every other trial that can befall you, may tend to your ultimate good. I am conscious of having been very deficient in the expression of gratitude for all your kind and disinterested attentions during my stay at Waterford ; but I hope thou wilt rest assured, that it has not proceeded from a want of a feeling sense of their value. I shall often recur with pleasure and satisfaction to the time I

spent under your hospitable roof, and feel myself a debtor for obligations it may, perhaps, never be in my power to repay.

Since my recovery from the cold and indisposition which has confined me mostly to the bed for a week, I have endeavored to fill up my time as usefully as I could. The perusal and study of my Bible occupy a considerable portion of my time, from which I derive both edification and amusement, and am led more and more into the desire that my friends and the whole human race may pay increasing attention to its sacred contents. It certainly points out the way to our eternal salvation; but I have much (much indeed!) yet to learn from it. When I consider that without regeneration, no man can enter the kingdom of God, and reflect on my own state in comparison with that, I am sometimes ready to exclaim, Oh! what shall I do? I desire to be kept patient and at the Lord's dispo-

sal, humble and calm, in the heights and in the depths, trusting all to the mercy of the Most Merciful. I feel thankful that my bodily health appears to amend; thankful only under the hope, that if it does, I may be enabled to live to the glory of the Almighty.

7th of 9th month. Felt some concern to-day, that whilst I am engaged in vigorously endeavoring to store my mind with a variety of information, *vital* knowledge may maintain an uppermost place: without this, I feel sensible, all human acquirements will be but as dross.

9th. I have been occupied with reading some Friends' tracts, which I thought might be useful in case of my going to France.

It is good frequently to meditate on the scheme of our salvation as described in the New Testament; a glorious scheme truly, and worthy of its Great Devisor!

Soon after the last date he took a fresh cold, which brought on another attack of inflammation ; and on the 17th it was found necessary again to resort to those reducing remedies from which he had before obtained relief ; but the disease had now made too great a progress to yield as heretofore, and his medical attendants strongly urged him to try the effects of a sea voyage, as speedily as possible. This he was himself earnest to do ; and at the end of about five weeks, he was conveyed on board a yacht, in which, accompanied by a brother and sister, and suitable attendants, he again crossed the Irish Channel, in order that both himself and his friends might be able to judge, by a sail of this length, whether any benefit would be likely to result from a longer voyage. But of the unfitness, and indeed impracticability of this, all were soon convinced, by his continued and increasing weakness. The complaint was now evidently making rapid inroads on

his debilitated frame, and it was resolved that he should remove into the mild atmosphere of the Cornish coast, as the best substitute for a more southern climate.

They arrived at St. Ives on the 9th of the 11th month, and on the 12th settled into lodgings at Penzance, where, with others of the family who afterwards joined them, they remained till the last solemn event took place. Of much that marked the period that passed here, the Journals of his sisters contain an account, from which the following pages are extracted.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE LAST ILLNESS OF EDWIN PRICE,

Extracted from the Journals of his sisters.

PENZANCE, 11th month 19th, 1818.

Last night, whilst his sisters were sitting by his bedside, they had a sweet hour of his company. They had been saying to each other, in the course of the day,

that although there was no doubt as to the prepared state of his mind, they did not like that he should be so unconscious, as he appeared to be (entirely from the flattering nature of his disease), of the probable near approach of a final change. One of his sisters therefore asked the other, as they sat by him, what she thought of the desirableness of a long life. Her reply was, that she considered it wholly to depend on a state of preparation for a better. Her sister then said that she had been thinking, in the course of the day, how encompassed with trials this world is, and how selfish it seemed to be, to desire the detention of our friends in suffering, when the change would be such a happy one to them: that we had a positive assurance in Scripture, "that eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." That text, said her sister,

has been so much in my mind to-day, that I have communicated it to Edwin.

Pleased with this coincidence of thought and feeling, they then asked the dear invalid, who evinced great interest in the conversation, whether he continued to feel the same resignation that he formerly had done, and whether he thought he should recover. He replied, "It is a serious thing to feel quite prepared;" and added, "I am now able to see nothing as to the future." They told him it was a great favor, that almost throughout his illness, such an indubitable evidence had been afforded, not only to himself but to his family, and to many of his friends, that he was in the hands of a heavenly Father, who had nothing but mercy in store for him; and that this should be an encouragement in moments of darkness and doubt, when the Comforter was withdrawn. "Yes," he said very diffidently, "I have been greatly blessed with an evi-

dence of his love, though I have felt great desertion ; and a fear sometimes exists, lest I have not sufficiently sought the Lord, depending too much on these evidences. The Almighty must be sought. He must be sought."

They told him they felt a strong conviction, that whether life or death were his portion all would be well ; that his state was a most critical one, as there was no doubt that his lungs were greatly diseased. "Yes," he said, "they are no doubt ulcerated ; and ulceration is death." They observed, that leaving all in the hands of an Almighty Father was most desirable for him. "To Him I look," he replied ; "to Him only I commit myself." He intimated that he did not feel the same animating influence to which he had been accustomed in former times. This state of mind, they suggested to him, might be only a part of the refining operation necessary to fit him for a

union with Infinite Perfection ; and it was a suffering which the Saviour himself partook of, when, under a sense of desertion, he so affectingly exclaimed : “ My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me ? ” There was, during this conversation, a diffidence, humility, and sweetness in his manner, which seemed like an earnest of his future blessed allotment.

20th. This evening, when changing his linen, which had been frequently necessary from profuse perspiration, he remarked how very thin he was, and said, “ Perhaps with the greatest care I may last till the fourth month, but I think I shall not last longer.” He was lately retracing the different periods of his past life, and said, there was none he could recur to with greater satisfaction than to his very early years, when he was under the tender care and tuition of his mother : recollecting with particular pleasure, the

days he used to spend at a favorite cottage with her.

One day, some months since, when confined to his bed by a severe inflammatory attack, he asked one of his sisters whether she recollected that beautiful text from Isaiah, which he repeated, evidently applying it to his own condition : “Though the Lord give thee the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet shall not thy teachers be removed into a corner any more : but thine eye shall see thy teachers, and thine ear shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.”

He frequently observed how happy he was, and that he had everything to make him happy ; that with regard to his illness he was resigned to the event, and would prefer being taken from the temp-

tations of the world to being again involved in a vortex of business ; which, from his naturally active disposition, he feared he should pursue with too much ardor. He often made sweetly instructive remarks on the Scriptures, which, when the state of his health permitted him to read, formed much of his study.

21st. To-day, being deprived of the sensible presence of the promised Comforter, who so often manifested himself to him, he took up the Olney Hymn Book, and requested to have read to him that hymn from Isaiah 57 : 16, “ I dwell with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit.” He observed, it was a very sweet hymn, and the second verse peculiarly descriptive of a deserted state :—

I hear, but seem to hear in vain,
 Insensible as steel ;
 If aught is felt, 'tis only pain
 To find I cannot feel.

He also requested, as he frequently did, to have the 103d Psalm read to him, and several others, to which he listened with great attention.

22d. Conversing, this evening, on the probable result of his illness, he said: "We must put our trust in the Lord;" appeared quite aware of his situation, and gave several directions relative to his affairs. He repeated the first verse of the hymn in the Olney collection, on parting—

As the sun's enlivening eye
Shines on every place the same,
So the Lord is always nigh
To the souls that love his name.

He said this hymn was a great favorite of his, and that he often repeated it to himself; that he learnt it when spending a few weeks at Ilfracombe for his health; a time to which he often alluded with great satisfaction. "We lived there in

retirement (said he), and that I like ; and think far most profitable, affording satisfactory time for our books, contemplation, and prayer." He twice asked, whether we had no volume of "Piety Promoted" to read to him ; and on his sisters saying they would send and borrow one, he appeared pleased ; adding : " I love to read such books," and observed that " Dying Sayings" used to be a favorite book with him.

This evening, when placed in an easy chair, he requested, as usual, to have a portion of Scripture read to him. This was done by one of his sisters. When she had closed the book, and risen to get him something, he desired her to come and sit down again, and, after a pause, addressed her as follows : " Many of my friends formerly apprehended I should be called to future service in the Church ; and I look back to one particular period, when the Divine light shone with peculiar

clearness, and through, I believe, the immediate revelation of my heavenly Father, I saw beyond the present year, and I apprehended I should be restored to serve him ; but now, and for a long season, my state has been one of the utmost desertion, wherein all the future is hidden from me, and I am ready to fear lest this is dispensed through some omission of my own ; I am afraid I do not sufficiently devote my thoughts to God ; and, although some of my friends have thought it would please the Almighty to shorten my time here, and to receive me to glory, I cannot, from the evidences apprehended by them respecting me, derive any encouragement to my own mind." But, after a short pause, with tears of humility, he added : " Though, I do believe, through the mediation of a Redeemer, I shall be favored to obtain a place in the kingdom of heaven, and that an assurance of it will be granted to me before I die."

He then mentioned a happy period in his religious experience a few months since, before he ordered a plainer hat, which he said he did from a sincere desire to support the discipline of our Church in simplicity of dress, and added, "Though I apprehended it right to do it, I felt afterwards many fears, lest I was professing more than I ought." He spoke with the utmost tenderness and humility under this and some trials and temptations; however, he derived comfort from the consideration, that these conflicts were most probably permitted for the trial of his faith and patience; that the most eminent Christians experienced them; even the great Apóstle Paul had felt them, when he was consoled with the language, "My grace is sufficient for thee, for my strength is made perfect in weakness."

23d. He requested to have some parts of "Piety Promoted" read to him, and

remarked, when they were finished, that the accounts were very sweet ; and, after lying quite still, said, with renewed confidence, “ I think I have ever found my prayers answered.” On being told it was very encouraging, and a great favor to be spared severe conflicts, of which some were partakers ; “ *Yes,*” he replied, “ yet I cannot think but that may yet be dispensed. *Regeneration !*” he solemnly repeated, “ we must be born again before we can enter the kingdom of God,”—adding with humility : “ I cannot think that work complete in me.”

24th. Frequently, in the course of this day, he has expressed his desire to repose in quiet confidence on his Almighty Father, all whose ways he acknowledged were just and true and merciful : that he entertained no gloomy ideas of death, and desired to feel weaned from the world ; that he did not consider long life desirable. This morning, when noticing the

beautiful sunshine, he said, "I shall probably never walk abroad in it again." "Then," replied one of his sisters, "we have the consolation of believing thou wilt be better provided for." "Yes," he replied, "that is very true."

This day he has repeatedly expressed his grateful sense of the benefits he enjoys, saying, "What a blessing to be so free from suffering! I consider this long illness a great mercy." He requested, as usual, this evening, to hear some religious reading: and desired that part of Revelation might be read to him which says: "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord," &c. He then said, that he made it a practice, when residing in London, every morning to read the sacred volume before he quitted his chamber. "I used," added he, "to read often, in the Proverbs, the wise sayings of Solomon; and truly I stood in need of them, exposed as I was to the evils of the world."

27th. This morning he requested one of his sisters to read to him in the Bible, adding: "I am not now able to do it myself." The book opened to the last chapter of Luke, where our Lord made himself known to his disciples, as they journeyed to Emmaus and were sad. After a few verses had been read, his sister observed his countenance suffused with tears: and, fearing he might be suffering in body or mind, when the chapter was finished, she ventured to ask him if that was the case. He replied with earnestness, "O no, my dear!" When sitting by his couch in the evening, rubbing his feet, which were much swollen, he said to her, "I am very comfortable—comfortable both in body and mind: how joyous is the future! I have had a little glimpse of it to-day; a little glimpse through the eye of faith. My mind was drawn forth in prayer, when thou began to read to me this morning, and all I now desire is patience." He looked angelically sweet;

and on her saying it would have been difficult to have believed that the affections of nature could have been so much hushed and resigned, as, in consideration of the inconceivable felicity of which he was about to partake, they were, and that they could not wish to detain him here, he said: "O no! to be sure not; all is nothing, compared to it."

28th. This evening, the fourth and fifth chapters of 2d Corinthians were read to him, particularly noting that passage: "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." He looked full of sweetness, and when they were finished, said, "Very comforting."

29th. Being supported in bed this morning, for a little change of posture, he looked out of the window, and observing a number of sparrows feeding, remarked,

“And not even a sparrow falls to the ground without our Father’s knowledge!” This afternoon, when much exhausted, and his sisters were wiping the drops of perspiration from his face and arms, he said, “My cry surely should be, May the Lord help me!”

He again, in the course of the evening, expressed his earnest desire to keep his mind stayed on the everlasting arm. “I desire patience,” said he, “for which my prayers have been offered up. If my poor mind, which feels so much of darkness, could but be touched and wrought upon as in former times, I should be satisfied; but if it please the Almighty to take me now, doubtless I shall have rest and peace. He knows what is best; and I leave it to him.”

Afterwards he entered affectionately into sympathy with his sisters, on the impending trial of a separation from him.

They told him it would indeed be a great affliction, yet his state of mind, and the assurance they felt as to the joys he would enter upon, was a great stay to their minds—an unspeakable consolation—and that they desired to keep their minds fixed upon Him, who alone could make the hardest things easy. “I think you will,” he replied. He then said, how acutely his dear brother —— would feel this stroke. “We have been brought up together, companions from early infancy, and entered so much into each other’s schemes, and are so much attached to each other.” He desired this beloved companion might seek support from the same source, and that his death might be blessed to him.

12th month 2d. On his brother ——, in the course of conversation, this evening, telling him how close a trial it would be to him to lose him, he replied: “Yes, but only consider, ——, what a change

it will be for me ; how glorious ! how delightful !” adding : “ I hope we shall meet in a better and a happier world. I believe I shall be favored with a peaceful passage ; and shall obtain, through the mercy of my Saviour, a place in the kingdom of heaven. He is our Redeemer, and it is only through him we can enter there.”

He said to one of his sisters : “ I have had many glorious seasons during my illness.” He also, when sitting up in bed, requested she would bring him a Bible, which he was about to send as a little memorial of his affection to a dear friend of his ; and with a feeble, trembling hand, wrote in it, after inscribing his name : “ When death is near, God is our only support.”

Speaking of the concern he felt for one dear to him, on account of the dangers and temptations to which his line of life exposed him, by introducing him much

into mixed society, he concluded by saying: "Far better for him to become a standard-bearer in the Church, than to cherish the friendships of the world."

He expressed great resignation to the Divine will, and said, he could, he believed from his heart, adopt the language of, "Thy will be done." That though not permitted to feel sensible consolation, he thought the light would yet shine. He mentioned some excellent rules for religious conduct, by Sir Matthew Hale, one of which was the examination of the heart at the close of each day; and added: "Mine are now, through the mercy of Providence, mostly passed in sleep." When taken out, to have his bed made this evening, he requested to have a few Olney Hymns read; and desired his sister, if she could, to find one describing a young person setting out in life with sanguine hopes, and receiving a sudden check to all his earthly prospects.

The nearest which the book afforded, was one entitled, "Earthly prospects deceitful;" this he thought very suitable; and afterwards heard his favorite hymn, with which he expressed great satisfaction:—

"Courage, my soul! behold the prize
A Saviour's love provides:
Eternal rest beyond the skies
To all whom here he guides."

He again spoke of the important work of regeneration, repeating the words of our Saviour, John 3d, and expressed, in strong terms, his Christian faith in the mercy of a Redeemer, saying, "*He* is the *only* way!"

5th. He conversed much on religious subjects, especially the resurrection of the dead, quoting the words of our blessed Lord to the poor repenting criminal, "To-day shalt thou be with me in Paradise;" and the assurance respecting the resurrection, in John, chap. 14th: "In

my Father's house are many mansions : I go to prepare a place for you." He spoke of the snares and temptations which are in the world, and those which always most beset him, and of the glorious change which now awaited him.

9th. Last night, when, from excessive weakness, it seemed a great effort to him to be moved at all, he was engaged in prayer for strength; and on his elder brother, who watched by him, repeating to him from Isaiah : "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee, because he trusteth in Thee," he replied : "O ! yes ; it is from Him I derive all my strength." He was indeed most exemplary in patience and resignation, and frequently spoke of his death with the utmost composure. He said to one of his brothers : "I feel such entire trust in the Lord's mercy and goodness, that I can wholly commit myself to him, believing that if I am removed to-morrow,

I shall be favored, through the love of a Redeemer, to enjoy rest and peace." At another time he remarked, "I sometimes enjoy the anticipation of a removal from the pains of mortality, and the snares and temptations of the world."

12th. At this time an eminent physician, who is a near connection, and who regularly visited him with the most affectionate and unremitting kindness, told his family that he did not think that he could survive many days, his fever being very high and his weakness extreme.

16th. He requested to have a psalm read to him, and repeated slowly himself, at two different times, "Oh! that I had wings like a dove, for then I would fly away and be at rest!" When he was suffering much from pain in his back, on being asked if nothing could be done to relieve him, he said, "Oh! no: we must pray to the Lord for contentment."

He spoke this evening of the trial it would be to him to leave his family, but that he believed the further he got into the field of Divine love, the more he should be weaned and purified from the world. He had thought he should be raised up again, and that he should have to glorify the name of the Lord on the earth ; but thought he might now be removed to praise him in heaven.

19th. Experiencing considerable difficulty of breathing, he said to one of his sisters who sat by him : " Oh ! how much better for me to go." She told him, she hoped he would still be enabled to wait patiently till heaven was his appointed portion. " Oh I wish I was there !" he said : " far more desirable to me than lingering thus and taking so much trouble to support the poor body, which must shortly die. *I must very soon go !* yet if it is the Almighty's will that I stay longer, *so be it.*"

20th. His cough for the last few days has been almost incessant, which, to so emaciated and enfeebled a frame, is extremely distressing; but he remarked during the night, to one of his sisters, who watched by him, how much less distressing his cough had been during the night: she told him it seemed extraordinary, and not to be accounted for. He said: "The Almighty is very merciful; I did pray to be relieved: it is seldom I dare intrude such petitions, but this seems granted; the *Lord's mercy* is indeed *unbounded!*"

21st. This evening, when just roused out of sleep by a fit of coughing, he was heard to say to himself: "I am in the hands of the Almighty, else how could I feel so satisfied?"

26th. In the course of last night, he conversed most sweetly with one of his sisters on the excellence of religion; he

said : “ A union and communion of the soul with God, how glorious ! Oh ! when brought to the very gates of death, as I have been, how is every barrier removed ! It is a delightful feeling !—delightful !—*most delightful !* I would not return to the world again for any consideration whatever. One’s family, relations, and friends, are very near ; but every other feeling seems lost in universal love ! ”

27th. This morning he asked, as his aunt and one of his sisters were sitting by him, whether it was likely that when we meet in heaven, we shall know each other there. He remarked : “ The Christian religion is mysterious to the natural understanding ; ” repeating the words of our Saviour, “ I and my Father are one. ” His aunt observed, that it was in the Divine light that these mysteries were made clear to our view. “ Oh ! I often understand them, ” said he, “ and again I do not understand them : but I

shall never forget a dream I had when returning from London." He spoke very slowly, his breath being affected and his cough interrupting him: "I thought I saw our Saviour suffering on the cross, and the drops of blood streaming down his face, and the crown of thorns on his head; and it so affected my mind that I thought I could never again act contrary to the precepts of Scripture." He dwelt with peculiar emphasis on the sufferings of our Saviour, and implied, in an expressive manner, the strong claim a Saviour's sufferings are on our duty, our love, and our obedience.

29th. His mother, who had been detained from joining him, by important duties at home, was daily expected; and whilst he was supported upon his couch to take a little nourishment, which, from distressing breathing, was a great burden, he said: "O! I hope when my mother and brother come, all will soon be finished,

and I may give up eating: yet (said he) I do not want to leave you; I wish I could take you with me; but I now seem to have done everything I had to do, and shall be glad to be taken. If I were to recover, mine would be a life of conflict; and were I to be restored, and to be guilty hereafter of a breach of covenant with the Almighty, how much to be regretted would such recovery be! I wish (he repeated) my mother and brother were here; I should then have my family and friends around me, and shall soon, I hope, pass away." One of those who waited on him saying that a release from such sufferings must indeed be desirable, he checked the mention of *suffering*, and said, "But the joys I shall possess how glorious!" To one of his sisters he said, "Sometimes the thought I shall soon be in heaven makes me almost spring from my bed."

30th. This afternoon his mother ar-

rived : he extended his arms as she came to the bedside to meet her, and said, " Well, my dear mother, I receive thee with open arms, and am so glad to see thee." On her saying, she brought much love for him from his friends at home, he replied, in a very faint voice, his breathing being much affected, " Love seems to abound, mother !" On his again welcoming her, she told him she was now come to stay with him, if it should be months. " O ! mother (he replied), I hope it will not be a month."

31st. He inquired, this morning, which would be most acceptable to his mother, a new Bible or his old one; he was told she would value most the one which he had been in the habit of reading, on account of the marks he had put to different chapters : he said, " I have not made many marks, but I can truly say, I love the Lord with all my heart." Afterwards, sitting up in bed, and feeling a

little better than usual, he said, "When I am free from pain and shortness of breath, *I am so happy!* so happy!" and afterwards, with a heart overflowing with gratitude, recounted his numerous blessings, and said, "I have been much favored through life;" he repeated again, "much favored."

1st month 1st, 1819. On awakening this forenoon out of a nice sleep, having been deprived of rest during the night by cough and shortness of breath, he said, "What sweet sleep I have had! what a fine thing it would be if I could sleep away into another world! Would it not be very delightful, mother?" She told him that she had desired for him, if consistent with the Divine will, an easy passage. "Ah! I have been thinking about that," he replied, "but yet I do not think I ought to shrink from the sufferings of the cross, when I reflect on what our Saviour suffered; how he endured buffetings."

2d. On his mother, to-day, reading to him one of the Olney Hymns, on the commencement of a new year, in which these lines occur :—

“ Thanks for mercies past receive,
Pardon of our sins renew—”

it seemed to induce a train of reflections, and he said, “ How delightful it is that there is forgiveness of sins !”

3d. This evening the dear sufferer wished to have some “ Dying Sayings ” read to him. “ It does me good,” he repeated, “ it does me good ; I enjoy to hear such books.” In the course of the reading he spoke of the exposure in the world to which he had formerly been subject, and said, “ I hope the Lord will take me from all these things.” Afterwards he added, “ His mercy and goodness have followed me all the days of my life.” His mother said, “ I consider, my

dear, that he has set his love upon thee.”
“O yes,” he replied, “He *has* followed me, mother.”

Whilst reading to him an account of the closing moments of H. Stephens, wherein she was engaged in prayer, in these words: “This is a long conflict! Lord, help; send a little help from thy holy sanctuary, if it be thy holy will, I pray thee!”—he said: “O yes, that is my cry.” She afterwards read to him the account of Samuel Clothier Bryant, and commented particularly on one sweet remark of his, that as he felt no unity with the wicked, so he could not believe that his portion hereafter would be with such, but with purified beings and the spirits of the just made perfect; and observed how delightful such society would be; on which he exclaimed: “Come, mother, and join us; come and join this delightful society.” She told him, she must wait the Lord’s time, but esteemed it a

favor to have been permitted to live to see her children grow up. "I have been thinking of that," he replied, "that it is cause of thankfulness on our account, that you [his parents] have been spared to us so long." He afterwards said, "It is astonishing how my love increases to all my fellow creatures." "It is because, my dear," replied his mother, "thou art getting nearer the fountain of love."

4th. This morning a symptom of dissolution appearing in the alteration of his voice, it was with difficulty, though with indescribable sweetness, that he expressed himself, saying, "I think the Lord will soon release me! and I hope you all fully resign me: do not hold me; rather push than hold me," meaning that they should rather intercede for his release. He then said, "What I desire for all my family is, that they may follow me into those regions where we shall unite to part no more; and if *one* should

be missing, how dreadful would it be !” On one of his sisters saying, that she hoped if he had anything to say to them individually he would not withhold it, he replied : “ No, my dear, what I feel is general : I love you all *most* dearly ; I wish my very dear love to be given to my friends at home.” He again dwelt on the bounty of his heavenly Father, saying, “ I partake largely of the Lord’s great mercy.”

When he is awake religious reading is his delight, and often he appears to unite with the sentiments expressed, in silent prayer. When his brother, over whom his heart often seems to yearn, with the tenderest sympathy and affection, came to his bedside with a book in his hand, he inquired what it was, and, finding it was the New Testament, seemed pleased, saying, “ *That is right ;*” and by his wish he heard a chapter. He several times said, he was almost ready, for the sake

of this brother, to wish to live; and told him one night: "If guardian angels are permitted, I shall be a guardian angel to thee."

To the man-servant who attended him by sea and land, and often watched by him at night, he expressed himself very gratefully, and with much Christian humility, telling him he should take leave of him as a brother. He asked him, if he could do anything for him; and said he should commend him particularly to the notice of his family. He had previously presented this servant with a Bible, exhorting him to read in it frequently, and assuring him that he would deeply feel the value of an acquaintance with the Sacred Writings, when he should be laid on a death-bed.

5th. This endeared and most patient sufferer, all last night endured great bodily conflict, as he has done to-day

also, from the difficulty of breathing, under which he has often prayed for strength, saying: "Lord, help! Lord, help! Oh! I shall be rejoiced when it is the will of the Almighty to take me." Afterwards, observing those around him much grieved to see him in such suffering, he said to them, with a cheerful smile: "Never do you mind; the kingdom of heaven is at hand, and that is glorious!"

His whole conduct is animating, strikingly exemplifies the Christian, and comports with the emphatical declaration to one of his sisters, the day before yesterday: "My heart is fixed! my heart is fixed!" On his mother just now saying, she hoped it would please the Almighty in some way soon to grant him relief, he replied: "We must wait the Lord's time!" and on her adding, that she thought he was preserved in much patience; he said humbly: "I am thankful for the

degree with which he favors me. What a kind Providence we have to do with!"

He last night gave much excellent counsel to his beloved brother, who watched by him, and said: "I hope, as thou lovest me, thou wilt remember what I say after I am gone." He then said: "I feel rather anxious! I fear I am not worthy of a place in the kingdom of heaven." On his brother remarking, that his trust must be in the mercy of the Almighty, he replied: "Yes; it is only on the goodness and mercy of the Almighty I rely; the prospect is a very awful one." But he soon added: "I feel no fear; I feel full confidence, and believe that the language to me is: *Trust in me, be not afraid.*"

6th. The distressing breathing continuing to a great degree last night, one of his sisters, who was supporting him in bed, remarked to him: "These are wear-

some days and nights for thee." "Yes," he replied, "but for the hope set before me, as the Apostle says; yet hope deferred maketh the heart sick, and I feel that to be my case; but the Almighty is very kind to me—very kind! whenever I think of it, it calls forth my gratitude." His voice is now gone, but his whisper is perfectly distinct, and he was heard to say, but whether in sleep or not was not known, "shall soon celebrate."

7th. He was this morning much exhausted; and on seeing his friends greatly affected, said, as well as his breath would let him: "The Lord will help me;" afterwards, "I am thankful, very thankful; how much better off am I than hundreds! Everything I could wish, every comfort; 'you are so kind to me!'" On being told it was a great pleasure to wait on him, and to see him so sustained: "Well," said he, "this is all the effect of the light of the glorious Gospel;" and afterwards

added: "I had thought my heavenly Father intended me for service in his Church below, and I was made willing to submit;" then signified his thankfulness in the sacrifice of the will being accepted, and his being removed so early to join the Church triumphant in heaven. He expressed much more, but getting fatigued, added: "I believe I must lie down now, though I enjoy to converse with you about these heavenly things." He looked out of the window at the prospect, saying, "Beautiful! everything in nature is beautiful."

8th. In the course of the night before last, the dear invalid was in great bodily agony, from the difficulty of breathing; a prelude to the last awful scene, of which those around him have to-day been the afflicted witnesses; though in passing through the valley of the shadow of death the Almighty was his refuge, and underneath was the Everlasting arm.

He expressed himself thus : " I am ready to say, My God, My God ! why hast thou forsaken me ? My cry is, God, be merciful to me, a sinner." Again : " O ! Almighty Father, be pleased to help me through !" and afterwards, as if an evidence had been granted that his prayer was heard, he added : " I am very thankful to my heavenly Father."

Whilst his mother was reading to him from Isaiah, yesterday morning, " Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth," he broke forth thus : " Save me ! save me ! O Lord, save me ! O that the bitterness of death were past ! Gracious Lord, condescend to be my Christ ! Lord Jesus, come quickly ! holy Jesus, come quickly ! sweet Jesus, come quickly ! and take me to thyself, this day, if it be consistent with thy blessed will ; but if it be not consistent with thy will, then grant me patience. Hear my petition, O gracious Father ! *I am ready*. If it be not

presumptuous, O permit me to reason with thee, and if I am ready, why not take me speedily? But if I am presumptuous in thus reasoning with thee, be mercifully pleased to forgive me. Forgive me *all* my sins, through the mediation of the dear Son of thy love, Christ Jesus, our Lord. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses; O! forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those that trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, *thy glorious kingdom*, forever and ever, Amen. O! I am holding sweet communion with my Maker. *Sweet communion!* What condescension! I thank thee, O most holy Father, for thy great condescension! May I this day show forth thy wisdom, glory, and praise! *Pour down! Pour down!* pour down the cup of thy salvation, and enable me to render to thee the praise through Jesus Christ, my Redeemer.

“To-day, to-day, be pleased to release me, if it be thy most holy will, and admit me into thy glorious kingdom—*Oh glorious!* And grant me, Oh ! mercifully grant me a quiet passage, as an evidence that my prayer is heard. This day, my Saviour, receive me into thy arms; nevertheless, not my will but thine be done, and in thy own time take me, and grant me patience. I thank thee, O glorious Father ! that thou hast heard me, through the merits of my Redeemer—through *his* merits ; I have no merits of my own ; no righteousness ; it is all of thy great mercy ; all my own righteousness is ‘as filthy rags.’ Great and marvellous art thou, Lord God Almighty ; mysterious are thy ways, and past finding out !”

He continued thus in fervent supplication and devout praise for about an hour, but memory was so lost in feeling, that it can do no justice to this most solemn and impressive season. He asked for —,

who quickly came to his bedside; when he put out his hand to him, and said, "Come, —, thou art come in time to see me preparing. *Mind, —, and commune with thy Maker.* O! there is *nothing* more *delightful*. When brought to such a time as this, all that the world can give is *nothing*. I have seen enough of the world; *quite enough*: do not seek after riches; be content with little; keep at home in thy mind; read Friends' books. I hope you will follow me, and that we shall all meet again. The Lord be with thee! The Lord be thy guide!" He afterward said, in speaking of what our Saviour suffered for our sins: "I thought I saw him suffering on the cross, with the crown of thorns on his head, and the drops of blood running down his face, and his hands and feet pierced with the nails that fastened him to the cross; and I thought I could never be disobedient."

He then sent messages of love to different Friends; desired that his room might be kept quite still, and gave general directions about his funeral; adding, "And oh! to be admitted into that glorious kingdom, I shall readily say, Fare-ye-well, fare-ye-well!" Much more of a most deeply instructive character he expressed, and continued in a dying state the whole of yesterday and last night, during which, under the agony of death, he cried to the Almighty: "Help me! help me to endure this trying dispensation."

On his mother coming to his bedside, and saying, "Be of good courage, do not be dismayed;" he replied, very sweetly: "Cast down, mother, but not forsaken." At another time, "I feel that life is very short;" and on hearing the clock strike ten, he asked, "What o'clock is that?" On being told, he said, "Only ten! Sorrow cometh in the evening, but death

in the morning." At another time, "How mysterious are the ways of Providence!"

As the period of dissolution approached, which was marked by a distressing struggle for breath, he continued long in solemn prayer and praise. About three hours before his death, he said: "O Lord, forgive all my sins; condescend to hear my prayer, and seal my peace. Lord Jesus! grant me patience." Then looking at those around him, he impressively said: "It is an awful thing to die! *remember that*; I always thought a death-bed awful, but never so much so as lately." His mother approaching nearer to his bedside, said: "The prison doors are opening, my dear, and thy captive spirit will soon be set free, and thou wilt enjoy the glorious liberty of the sons of God." He expressed himself as feeling more easy, adding: "Do you not think my cry to the Lord is heard?" Then he quickly added: "My prayer is heard. I begin to

feel happiness. By twelve it will be over. Thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven. In thy own time, most merciful Father ! take me. Thy mercy and goodness have followed me all the days of my life." Then, just as his voice was dying away, he summoned all the powers of exhausted nature, and, in a most striking manner, repeated, "I and my Father are one. I and my Father are one. I am the true vine. No man cometh unto the Father but by me."

After his tongue had ceased to articulate, his lips moved in prayer till within about two hours of his eternal rest ; and nearly the last words that could be understood were, "Praise thee more and more ; Farewell ! farewell ! farewell ! Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." After this his breath became less difficult, and he seemed to fall into a gentle sleep till just as the clock began to strike twelve, when he peacefully heaved his last breath

without a struggle, and those who sat around him in solemn stillness could unite with his happy spirit, in the language of "Thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through Jesus Christ the Lord."

He died the 8th of 1st month, 1819, aged twenty-three years and nearly three months.

The mortal remains were interred in the burial-ground at Marazion, on the first day week following, after a solemn Meeting, which was numerously attended by his relations and friends, and many others; the hearts of the mourners receiving on this occasion the most consoling support through that Faith and Hope, which remain to be as an anchor to the soul, both sure and steadfast.

